

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MOGADI 00945 291301Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----112904 291307Z /65
O 291250Z APR 78 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6236

S E C R E T MOGADISCIO 0945

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: MASS, SO, US
SUBJ: ARMS SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP WITH SOMALIA

REF: STATE 99321

1. PRESIDENT SIAD RECEIVED ME THIS AFTERNOON, APRIL 29. I
EXPLAINED TO HIM THE PROBLEM OF OMITTING THE WORDS QUOTE INTERNATIONAL

LY
RECOGNIZED END QUOTE FROM HIS LETTER. I SUGGESTED HE COULD EITHER
REVISE HIS LETTER, OR HAVE THE FOREIGN MINISTRY SEND US A NOTE
CONFIRMING THE IDENTIFY OF INTERPRETATIONS, OR AUTHORIZE AMBASSADOR
ADDU TO SEND SUCH A NOTE TO THE DEPARTMENT IN WASHINGTON. I
GAVE HIM SUGGESTED DRAFTS OF BOTH A REVISED LETTER AND THE NOTE.
HE ACCEPTED THE DRAFTS, AND SAID HE WOULD REPLY SHORTLY.

2. SIAD THEN ASKED WHAT WERE SOMALI'S INTERNATIONALL-RECOGNIZED
BORDERS? HE SAID THIS WAS OF COURSE A MATTER OF DISPUTE, BOTH
IN THE UNITED NATIONS, AND BEFORE THE OAU. THE ITALIANS AND THE
BRITISH WERE TO HAVE SETTLED THIS, HE SAID, BUT THEY DID NOT. THERE
HAS BEEN NO DEFINITION OF THE BORDER SINCE SOMALIA'S DEPENDENCE,
HE ADDED.

3. COMMENT: THE WORDS ARE TROUBLESOME TO SIAD, BUT I EXPECT HE
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WILL REPLY SHORTLY. HE IS PREPARING FOR A TRIP WHICH I BELIEVE
WILL INCLUDE PARIS, CAIRO, AND JIDDA. I BELIEVE HE WILL WANT
TO BE CERTAIN HE HAS AN AGREEMENT BEFORE HE DEPARTS. I HAVE NOT
REVIEWED THE ARMS PACKAGE LIST WITH HIM, PREFERRING TO DEFER THAT
UNTIL THE AGREEMENT IS ESTABLISHED AND I HAVE THE CLARIFICATION
OF SOME THE ITEMS, THE LIGHT ANTI-TANK WEAPON FOR EXAMPLE, THAT I
SOUGHT EARLIER. I SHOULD ALSO LIKE TO DISCUSS AT LEAST TENTATIVE

SCHEDULES WITH HIM AT THE SAME TIME. SIAD, BY THE WAY, WAS IN
EXCELLENT HUMOR TODAY, AND LOOKED IN BETTER HEALTH THAN I HAVE
SEEN HIM IN SOME WEEKS. HE DID COMMENT THAT OUR RELATIONSHIP WAS
QUOTE TOO SLOW IN DEVELOPING END QUOTE, AN OBVIOUS REFERENCE TO
THE NEED TO CONTINUE THE EXCHANGE OF NOTES AND INTERPRETATIONS.
HE ACCEPTED MY POINT THAT THESE EXCHANGES CONSTITUTE AN AGREEMENT,
AND MUST CONFORM TO LEGAL PRACTICE. IF HE WAS SERIOUSLY TROUBLED,
HE DID NOT SHOW IT.
LOUGHRAN

SECRET

NNN

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